

MARIN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
MARIN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY,
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION

**INTERIM PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY
FOR SPORT FISH FROM TOMALES BAY
November 2000**

Elevated levels of mercury have been found in fish from Tomales Bay. The County of Marin Department of Health and Human Services and Community Development Agency/Environmental Health Services Division, in cooperation with the state Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), is issuing the following recommendations for limiting consumption of sport fish caught in Tomales Bay:

- **DO NOT EAT LEOPARD SHARKS OR BROWN SMOOTHOUN SHARKS.**
- **LIMIT CONSUMPTION OF THE FOLLOWING FISH TO NO MORE THAN:**
 - **ONE MEAL PER WEEK OF SURFPERCH (SHINER, REDTAIL SURFPERCH) *OR***
 - **TWO MEALS PER MONTH OF CALIFORNIA HALIBUT *OR* PACIFIC ANGEL SHARKS *OR***
 - **ONE MEAL PER MONTH OF BAT RAYS**
- **THIS ADVISORY DOES NOT APPLY TO COMMERCIALY GROWN TOMALES BAY OYSTERS, CLAMS, AND MUSSELS, which do not contain high levels of mercury.**

It is especially important that women who are pregnant or may become pregnant within a year, nursing mothers, and children under age six follow these guidelines. The nervous systems of the developing fetus and young children are especially sensitive to the toxic effects of methylmercury, the form of mercury that is found in fish.

For more information, call:

(415) 499-6839 Marin County Health and Human Services
(415) 499-6907 Marin County Environmental Health Services
(916) 324-0955 Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
(707) 875-4260 State Fish and Game

Websites:

<http://www.co.marin.ca.us/ehs/> Marin County Environmental Health
<http://www.oehha.ca.gov> State Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/fishcon1.html> State Fish and Game
<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb2> Regional Water Quality Control Board